REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 10, 2003 (Paper No. 16). Claims 1, 2, 5 to 8, 11 to 15, 18, and 19 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 7, 13, and 14 are the independent claims.

Claims 1 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0015167 (Watanabe et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,559,934 (Ogura et al.). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns a character processing apparatus carrying out control in such a way that overflow character data for a display area and stored in a storage means is moved to another storage means for storing overflow character data and the overflow character data stored in the other storage means is rearranged in another display area specified by a user. Movement of the overflow character data occurs based on a judgment made by a judgment means for judging whether the user has selected a predetermined designation for the display area in a case where overflow character data is present.

Referring specifically the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a character processing apparatus including rearrangement means for rearranging the overflow character data stored in a third storage means in another display area specified by the user. Amended independent Claims 7 and 13 are method claims that substantially correspond to Claim 1. Amended independent Claim 14 is directed to a storage medium storing a control program for executing processing steps that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 and in particular neither discloses nor suggests moving overflow character data which cannot be displayed in the display area to another storage means and rearranging the overflow character data stored in the other storage means in another display area specified by the user. In contrast, Watanabe et al. disclose that, if a character string's length exceeds a threshold value, the characters in the string whose position exceeds the threshold value are deleted (Fig.17(e)). Therefore, Watanabe et al. teaches that characters in an excess portion of a character string are deleted which teaches away from moving overflow character data which cannot be displayed to a storage means for storing overflow character data.

Ogura el al. disclose that, if a character string's length exceeds the horizontal length of a printing area, any overflow characters are transmitted to an overflow memory area and a user is notified of the overflow by an overflow mark indicating that characters on the right side of the overflow mark are not printed (col.14; lines 1 to 18 and lines 35 to 46). As such, Ogura et al. teaches away from rearranging the overflow character data stored in said third storage means in another display area specified by the user.

Therefore, even when Watanabe et al. and Ogura et al. are combined, the combination does not disclose the present invention. Specifically, Watanabe et al. teach deletion of excess characters and Ogura et al. teach notifying a user using an overflow mark.

In view of the foregoing deficiencies of the applied art, amended independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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